THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN) (a) The Milk and Milk Product Order (MMPO), promulgated in 1992 has been in effect since then and so far, no changes have been made to this order which would amount to liberalisation of any of the substantive provisions of it.

(b) to (d) Milk processing units which started prior to the introduction of MMPO are not exempt from the requirement of registration under the provisions of MMPO.

(e) The compulsory licensing in respect of milk product manufacturing units was discontinued in July 1991, when licensing was abolished for several sectors of industry.

दालों के उत्पादन के लिए जाम्बिया, आस्ट्रेलिया और तुर्की के साथ बातचीत

925. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जाम्बिया, आस्ट्रेलिया और तुर्की की सरकारों के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ इन देशों में भूमि पट्टे पर लेने और उस पर दालों का उत्पादन करने के लिए बातचीत हुई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार को उनसे बातचीत शुरू करने से पहले इन देशों में दालों की उपज के बारे में विस्तृत जानकारी प्राप्त हो गई थी; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इन देशों में दालों की प्रति हेक्टेयर उपज कितनी है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहम्मद अयूब खान) : (क) तथा (ख) दालों के उत्पादन के लिये विदेशों से भूमि पट्टे पर लिये जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ग) जी नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता है।

Dependency in the producton of chemical fertilizers

926. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is dependent on other countires in the production of chemical fertilizers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make India self-reliant in the matter of chemical fertilizers, and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Of the three main fertilizer nutrients required for agriculture, namely, nitrogen, phosphate and potash, indigenous raw materials are available mainly for nitrogen. The policy of self-sufficiency in fertilizers, therefore, has relevance in the context of nitrogenous fertilizers, which are largely based on indigenous feedstocks. At present, the country is self-sufficient to the extent of about 84% in the case of nitrogen.

As regards phosphate, the constraints in domestic availability of raw materials do not permit self-sufficiency in production. Since indigenous rock phosphate supplies only meet about 5% of the total requirement, phosphatic fertilizers produced in the country are substantially based on imported raw materials and intermediates. Moreover, because of these inherent handicaps, the cost of production of indigenous phosphatic fertilizers is generally high in relation to the imported finished products. At present, the import dependence in respect of finished phosphatic fertilizers is to the extent of 13%

There are no known and commercially exploitable reserves of potash in the country and per force, the entire requirement of these fertilizers is met through imports. Apart from direct application, imported potash is used by the indigenous manufacturers for making complex fertilizers.

Under the Industrial Policy of July 1991, the fertilizer industry has been delicensed. At present, the installed capacity in the country is 93.06 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 28.22 lakh tonnes of phosphate. Currently, a number of projects are under implementation and on completion, these projects will contribute an additional 15.74 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 0.31 lakh tonnes of phosphate. A number of other projects have also been identifed for implementation.